

B-3492 - B-3504

1842-1880/1872

143-103 E. Cross St. (South side)/ 124-126 Weber St. (North side)

Baltimore, Md.

Private access

The south side of the 100 block of E. Cross St. is one of the most interesting blocks in the southern section of Federal Hill, containing as it does almost every variety of house type built in the area between the 1840's and the 1880's. At 139-143 E. Cross St., at the eastern end of the block, there is a row of late Victorian style, two story, two bay wide brick houses with shed roofs and bracketed cornices. The houses, which sit on high basements, with basement kitchens, were built just before 1880. To the west, at 137 E. Cross St. there is a similar two story, two bay wide brick house with shed roof, but with no extant roof cornice, built about the same time. 135 and 133 E. Cross St. have been torn down, but at 131 E. Cross there is a two and a half story, two bay wide, late Federal style brick house located next to a pair of similar two and a half story frame houses at 127-129 E. Cross St. The survival of a frame house in this section of the city is quite unusual. All three houses seem to have been built in the 1840's or 1850's. Continuing west, one encounters a pair of two story plus attic, two bay wide brick houses at 123-125 E. Cross St., built about 1850; a late Victorian style, two story, three bay wide brick house with shed roof and bracketed cornice at 121 E. Cross St., an 1880's remodeling of an original 1840's house; and, at 117-119 E. Cross St., a pair of originally two story, two bay wide gable-roofed houses built in the mid 1840's, one of which (117) has since been enlarged and is now three stories in height with a shed roof and bracketed cornice. At 113-115 E. Cross St. there is another pair of two story plus attic brick houses, built in the mid 1840's by John S. Gittings, and at 111 E. Cross St. there is a two story, two bay wide gable-roofed house built by Gittings in the early 1850's. Further west, at 109 E. Cross St. there is yet another two story plus attic house, followed by a pair of two and a half story, two bay wide, late Federal style brick houses at 105-107 E. Cross St., and then another two story plus attic house at 103 E. Cross St. The four latterly described houses were all built in the early 1840's by William Addison, a local house carpenter. At 124-126 Weber St., there is a pair of two story, two bay wide brick houses with shed roofs and bracketed cornices, built in 1872 by Charles and Augustus Weber, leaders of the German community in Baltimore at this time. The houses are the only survivors of an original row of such houses built along the north side of Weber St. at this time.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-3502
MAGI 0435025404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

105-107 E. Cross St.

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

___UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

___MUSEUM

___COMMERCIAL

___PARK

___EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ENTERTAINMENT

___RELIGIOUS

___GOVERNMENT

___SCIENTIFIC

___INDUSTRIAL

___TRANSPORTATION

___MILITARY

___OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

___ VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☒ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☒ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This pair of two story, gable roofed brick houses with a single front roof dormer window apiece, were built in the 1840's as part of the development of this side of Cross St. by 1822.

The houses are two and a half stories in height, 13 1/2' wide, and occupy lots 103' deep. 105 Cross has a one story high, two bay deep rear addition; 107 Cross has a one story high, four bay deep rear addition. Both houses are two rooms deep. The houses are constructed in running bond. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with tarpaper and has a simple brick cornice. Each house has a broken pedimented dormer window on both its front and rear roof gable. Both houses have double rectangular chimneys located along both the front and rear of the roof gables. The chimneys at 105 Cross St. are located along the west side of the house; those at 107 Cross are located along the east side of the house.

All of the door and window openings have flat wood lintels and wood sills. All of the window openings are filled with 1/1 double hung sash. 105 Cross has a modern six panel door; 107 Cross has a modern flush door. Both doors are set beneath single light transoms. The houses sit on high basements, the entrances being reached by five wood steps at 105 Cross and five stone steps at 107 Cross. 105 Cross has a small, square coal opening located to the left of the steps; 107 Cross has a rectangular basement opening located to the right of the steps. A flat-roofed alleyway runs between the two houses.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1842

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Addison

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This pair of houses is significant as being representative of a group of two story houses with dormer windows built in the late 1830's and early 1840's in Federal Hill to provide inexpensive housing for the growing number of workers moving into the area to work in waterfront-related jobs. The houses are interesting as examples of the quite late use of design characteristics associated with a much earlier period. The houses are Federal in style, the only evidence of their later date being the longer, narrower first floor front windows, and certain interior woodwork details. The floor plan follows the pattern established for earlier working class housing in the area, with small front and back rooms on each floor and with enclosed, steep, and tightly winding stairs set between the two front rooms. The dormer story is one single room. The kitchen seems to have been located in a rear addition.

The houses were built by William Addison, a local carpenter, for his brother Samuel. The first owner-occupant of 105 E. Cross St. was a Bernhard Thornton, an engineer, who lived here in the late 1850's. The first owner-occupant of 107 E. Cross St. was a David C. Mitchell, a carter.¹

¹Baltimore City Land Records, Liber ED 108, Folio 1; ED 134, Folio 96; ED 122, Folio 52; Baltimore City Directory, 1858-59, 1860

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 13'6" x 103' each

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struever Bros. & Eccles5/79

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

RuxtonMaryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

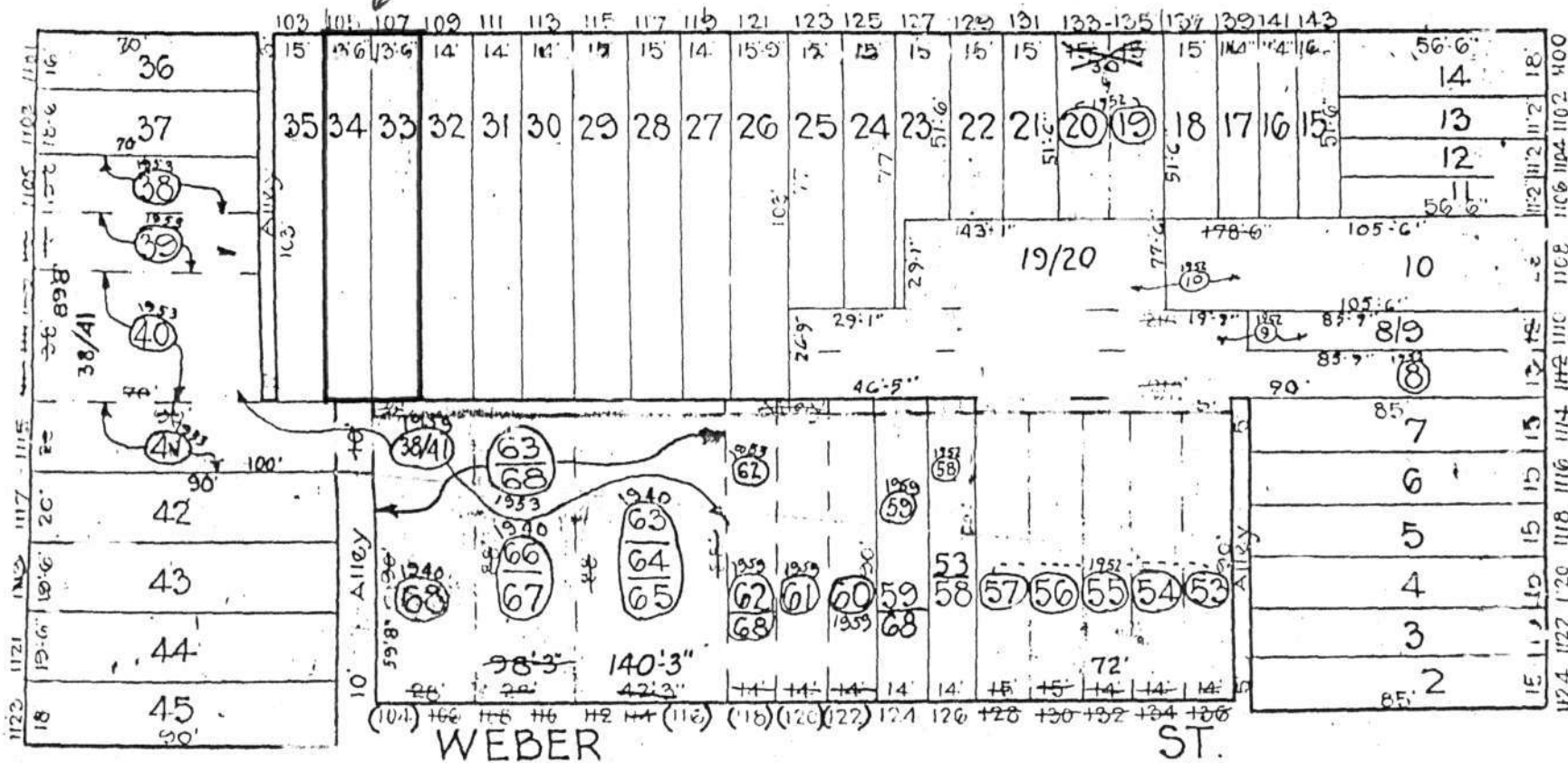
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

B-3502

E. CROSS

B-3502

ST.



ST.

WILLIAM

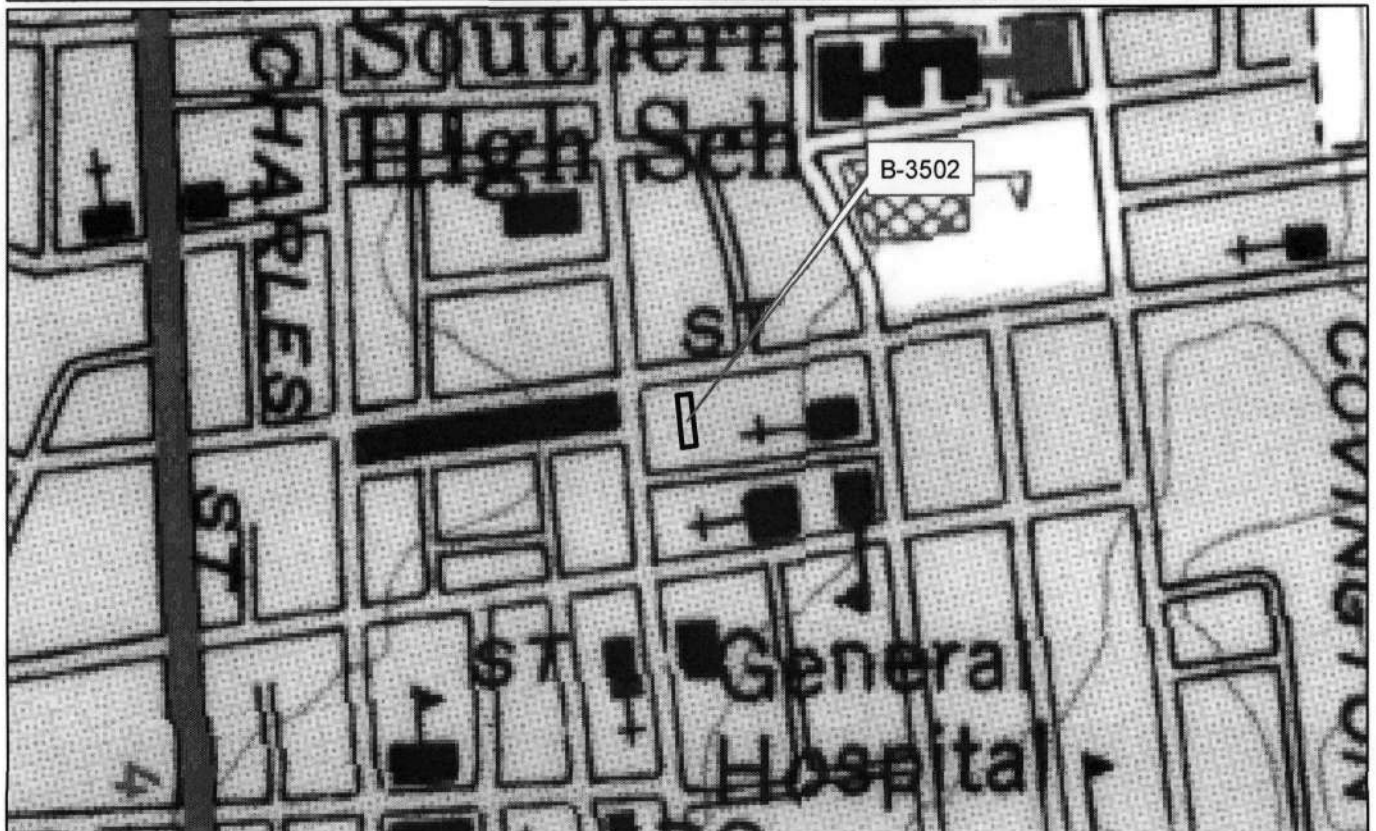
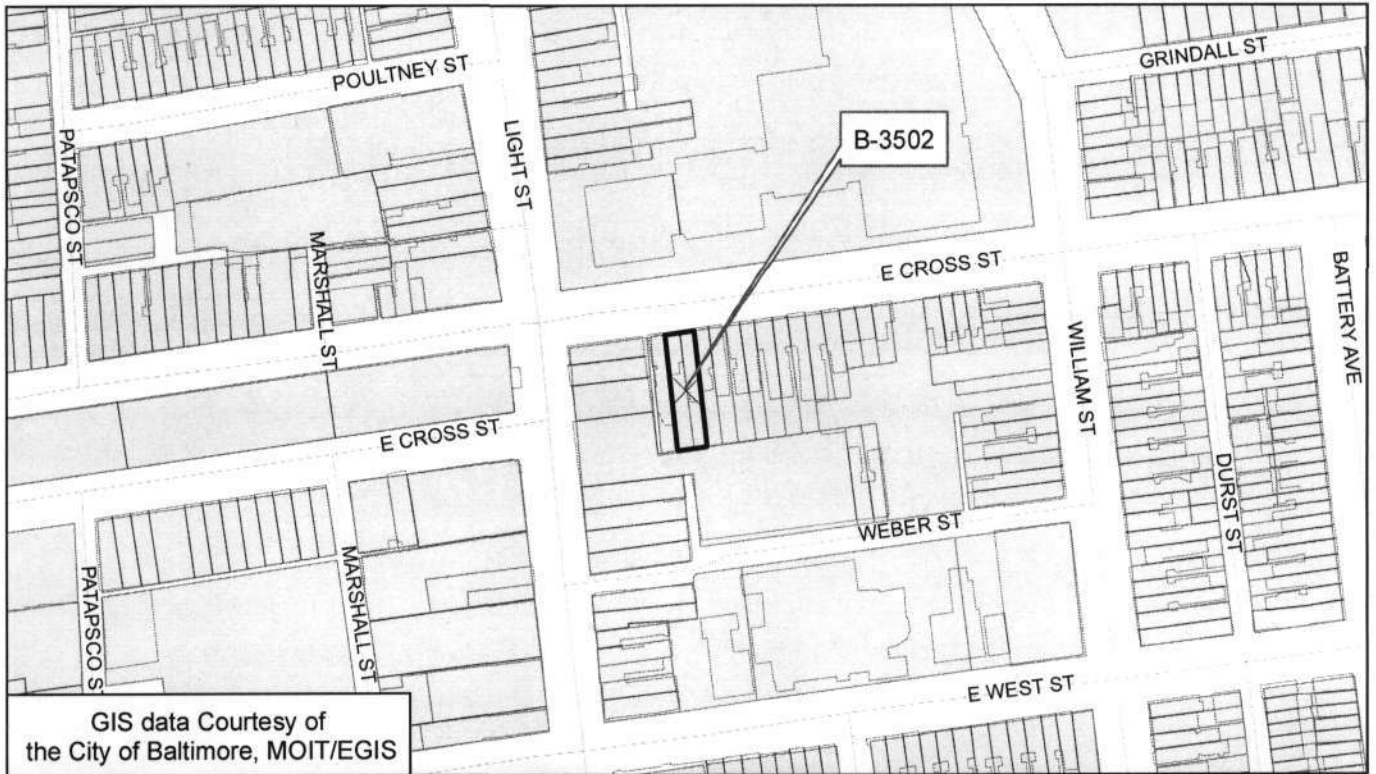
LIGHT



E. WEST

ST.

B-3502
105-107 E. Cross Street
Block 0951 Lots 034-033
Baltimore City
Baltimore East Quad.





B-3502

105-107 E. Cross St.

M.E.H.

5/79

North elevation